

The Brazil NAFM! How they did it!

Suggestions & tips on organising an area fellowship meeting.

From Ebed & Estrela, S. America:

GOD BLESS YOU! WE LOVE YOU! & WANT TO SHARE SOME INFORMATION which you will need to know about before you come to the NAFM! First of all, we'd like to share that the Lord gave us all a beautiful place in the country near S. Paulo—a regular campground with all the facilities—like a place to wash laundry & dishes, good toilets & showers, a small playground area for the children, two small swimming pools, etc!—A real paradise! And we'll have the whole camping to ourselves as the owner turned it over to us for the whole time we'll be using it! PTL!

ARRIVAL: WE SHOULD BE ARRIVING SOMETIME DURING THE DAYLIGHT HOURS of Saturday, so we can set up our tents & trailers during the light, before dark! We'll be showing some beautiful videos on Sat. night, so be sure you don't miss 'em! So, Saturday will be for arriving & setting up your camp. The next days will be full of inspiring fellowship & an exciting program. The 4th day will be for breaking up camp & returning to our fields! Please do not come any earlier than the designated day for arrival as the campground will not be open before then. For anybody who might get lost, you can phone one of the Homes in Sao Paulo & ask for help on information to get there.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING:

FOOD: CAMPGOODS, QUICK FOODS like sandwiches, salads, juices, fruit, etc. And for dinners—simple, one-pot meals (nothing fancy). Also as there will be 400-600 people possibly coming, everyone will need to be responsible to bring their own food for 5 days. Bring enough for the whole 5 days as there are no stores nearby! There are no kitchen facilities available there, so please be sure to bring your own kitchen utensils, pots & pans & clean-up necessities, if you can, or make arrangements with others coming from your LAF or DAF! There are some refrigerators in the campgrounds that will be available to us for storing meat, etc.

CLOTHING: PLEASE PRAY FOR GOOD WEATHER! (Important!) But be prepared for cool, rainy or hot, sunny weather for you & your family. Bring swimming suits too if

you like, as there are 2 swimming pools on the property!

SHELTER: PLEASE COME PREPARED TO CAMP OUT, which means bring tents, cars, or vans & trailers, tables & chairs, & personal bedding. If possible, bring extras of anything you have.

CAMPGROUND FEE: EVERY ADULT WILL NEED TO BRING THEIR CAMPGROUND FEE (large bills only please) to be paid upon entry. Please raise this money on your field before coming! Ask your kings, fish, friends, contacts or litness where you are, but please arrive with this necessary camping rent for your stay. We can't make any exceptions!

IMPORTANT: FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORK, please come into the S. Paulo area with enough funds, food & gasoline so you don't provision or litness while in the S. Paulo area. This is extremely important for the security of the work & Family in S.P. & for the NAFM!! Thanks so much!

ALSO, IF YOU OR YOUR CHILDREN ARE SICK, with anything contagious, please get well before coming so that no sickness is spread amongst the Family.

DELEGATES & TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION: PLEASE COME PREPARED WITH ANY IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS you may have on topics of national interest that you feel we should discuss in addition to: 1. A new pioneer push into ripe new national fields. 2. Mothers' Meeting. 3. MCVP (we hope maybe Amminadab will be here to share his vision on this.) 4. Reception of incoming missionaries from Europe, USA, etc.

PARENTS: PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING NECESSARY MATERIAL TO OCCUPY YOUR CHILDREN during the meetings, such as toys, books, crayons & paper, snacks, etc.

IMPORTANT: IN YOUR PREPARATIONS, TRIP, & ARRIVAL, PLEASE REMEMBER TO BE SELAH, as this meeting is for members only! Also, please remember to do your TRF early this month so you won't have to do it at the NAFM! GBY! WLYAAPFY! and hope to see you soon! Very good! Amen! GBY!

the government officials, embassy workers, etc. Although litnessing is good there, we have had some persecution & definitely do not recommend it to foreigners. FFlng is great there, & there are great possibilities for teaching English & escort work, but on the other side all these types of ministries would be illegal there once foreigners aren't allowed to earn money within the country. Young kids are very receptive & we have good catacombers there. Provisioning is very good also. We have some Family members there, nationals & foreigners, & unless some of the members are planning to leave that city it would be too crowded to have more members there.

RIO DE JANEIRO: Capital of the state of Rio. Population: 4½ million. It's a commercial, industrial & touristic center. Despite the fact that we had several persecutions there, it's still a very good place for litnessing, provisioning, FFlng, music, etc. People are very receptive & sweet but don't take life very seriously. Young people are very much into drugs, sport & fashion. Very superficial city. Rent is kind of high. A good four bedroom house with phone would cost us \$500 US to 600. Although we have had foreigners litnessing & doing street singing there, it would be wise to be cautious about being too public & known as it may arouse the suspicion of the officials that we are in Rio again. Although we have some brethren there, it would be good to have some good FFlng Homes to reach the top of this city. We have very good friends & kings there, definitely a very potential city.

SÃO PAULO: Capital of S. Paulo. Population: 12 million. Great industrial center of Brazil. Very open & receptive. We never had any serious persecution there. That's the city in Brazil where most Family members are & it does fit many as it's the biggest city of the country & offers great possibilities for all the ministries: litnessing, witnessing, FFlng, DTD, music, performing, etc. We already have lots of brethren there, but could fit more who have a burden to open some good Homes. Rent is high. Same as Rio. Living cost for a family of five is about \$1000 US per month. People there are very sheepy & receptive, as they don't have too much entertainment & work too much. It's a very rich place & donations there are high too.

Other than the main city, which is S. Paulo, the whole state of S. Paulo is full of very nice & rich towns which would support some families, such as Campinas, Limeira, Bauru, Santos, Ribeirão Preto, etc.

CURITIBA: Capital of Parana. Population: 1 million. Strong German & Polish influence. One of the best cities in Brazil to live. Rent & food are fairly cheap compared to the rest of the country. You can still get a good house with a phone for \$100 US. Good place also to buy vehicles, buses, trailers, etc. The Family never had any persecution here. We lived there for over a year & loved it. Provisioning is great, so is FFlng, music, DTD, performing, etc. People are not as warm as in the North, but are still receptive. The average living cost for a family of 5 there would be about \$700 US a month. Very cold in Winter.

FLORIANOPOLIS: Capital of Santa Catarina. Population: 1 million. Strong German influence. Very conservative place & people are usually sober & more like Europeans than Brazilians. You think you are in Germany as they even build their houses the same way. Very beautiful state. The Family is finally there now, but before it seemed impossible to get settled there, as the government is very strict & conservative & we were very persecuted there in the past. It's the toughest place in Brazil, but a good place for families coming from Europe who'd rather be in a cooler climate & more European-like place, as well as good for those with lots of wisdom & talent in the music ministry & FFlng. Litnessing there is still a little closed but getting better. In the same state there are other towns also very good & open & rich.

PORTO ALEGRE: Capital of Rio Grande do Sul. Population: 1½ million. Rich industrial & agricultural center. Borders Argentina & has some Argentine influence, along with Italian & German. The Family has been there for a long time. Never any serious persecution. Living & rent same as Curitiba. Fairly cheap. Very receptive & open field & definitely it could take a few more families. FFlng is fantastic there & litnessing & provisioning too. We lived there for over 2 years, & Cephas & Shiloh were the pioneers there. Some of our best disciples are from there, & the youth are very open & sheepy & lost. We still have some very good fruit of FFlng there, that have stuck with us. Also gets very cold in the Winter, sometimes as cold as Europe, down to about 5 to 6 below zero centigrade. Good for people accustomed to cold climates.

HOPE THIS COVERS MORE OR LESS THE INFO YOU NEED, & please let us know if there's more we can do to help you if you're planning on coming to Brazil! Lots of Love, Tiago & Tabita

Brasilian Field Situation!

Run-down on the conditions & potential ministries of the major cities of Brasil.

From Tiago & Tabita, VSs in S. America:

OUR POPULATION IS MOSTLY ON THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY, but are distributed throughout the country on a smaller scale. The cities where we do have our Homes now are: Porto Alegre, Curitiba, Florianopolis (capital of the state of Sta Catarina), Sao Paulo, Ribeirão Preto, Rio de Janeiro, Londrino, Juiz de Fora, Belo Horizonte, Brasília, Goiânia, Aracaju, Maceio, Recife, Juao Pessoa, Natal, Belem & Fortaleza. In the whole country we have about 400 to 500 Family members but only about 50 people in the North & all the rest in the center & South of Brasil. We know also that there are some brethren unknown to us that are reporting to the LIM, so there is a possibility of having more than these figures both in the country as well as in the North. We can't be precise about how many people we have in each of the cities mentioned as we don't receive their reports anymore.

RUNDOWN ON THE CITIES WHERE WE HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS:

BELEM: Rent is relatively high but donations are also high & make up for it. It's the capital of Para & is in the North. The North in general is very expensive due to the fact that they don't produce as much as in the South. People are very receptive. There are a lot of foreigners there because of the river port there & it's also a city with lots of drink factories, wood factories & clothing factories. The population is about 600,000. The government there never caused us any problem. Provisioning is very good, & we have two couples of the Family living there.

FORTALEZA: Capital of Ceara. Population: About 600,000. Seaport & commercial center. Rent is reasonable there. A good three-bedroom house in a good section of town would cost about \$150 US. Wages are low & donations also. People are very receptive. Many young radical students & a lot of the leading musicians in Brasil are from there, although they make their place of success in Rio or Sao Paulo. We had some problems with persecution by the government there before but nothing too serious. We have a king & queen there who were both won by FFlng but haven't been much in contact with the Family there. We

with her husband, a converted policeman won through FFlng. Would be a good place to have some foreigners to help reap the harvest there as well as to strengthen this couple mentioned.

RECIFE: Capital of Pernambuco. Population: Little over a million. It's an industrial city. Also a seaport. Rent is about the same as in Fortaleza. People are a little reserved & harder. The Family suffered persecution in this city many times but are still litnessing openly without problems lately. Provisioning is a little harder & litnessing not too rewarding, financially speaking, but FFlng & singing have not been done & can be a virgin territory to be explored. We have some Family members there that litness only, so some of the brethren from outside could be a blessing there with FFlng & music.

SALVADOR: Capital of Bahia. Population: A little over one million. Industrial & especially touristic city. Rent is very high due to constant tourism in the city. Oldest city in Brasil & most potential in the North. Together with Rio de Janeiro are the two cities that have the most tourists in Brasil. People very receptive & open, very liberal too as tourism has liberated it, they have beaches for topless bathing, etc. Many good hotels so it can be a fantastic place for FFlng, escort & music. We have no brethren here. It has a very strong African influence & the government cultivates it. Litnessing is still open & free although we had persecution once a few years ago but nothing too serious. Provisioning good.

BELO HORIZONTE: Capital of Minas Gerais. Population: A million & half. Third largest city in Brasil. Minas Gerais (the state) has the World's largest iron ore reserves, & is also very rich in bauxite, gold, diamonds etc. In the city of Belo there are a lot of students & we have reaped very good strong & potential disciples all from the upper class of Belo. Rent reasonable. Good house with phone about \$200 US. Older people extremely conservative, very Catholic. The government has persecuted us there many times, however the Family still goes strong there. Provisioning is very good & some brethren from outside can be a blessing in street singing, FFlng etc. We have some Family members there.

BRASILIA: Capital of Brasil. The govern-

A Miracle Permanent Visa & Mobility!

FAMILY STARTS HAPPY HOME IN CAMPGROUND DOWN SOUTH AFTER THE LORD'S MIRACULOUS PROVISION!

From Joao & Sara, Brasil:

WELL, PTL, HERE WE ARE IN BRASIL! It has been 4 months since we first arrived in South America. Miracles do happen, & when the Lord knew it was the right time He let us receive some money from an inheritance which I had not been able to get for a long time. So then we had enough funds to take care of everything & fly over here with landing funds!

THERE WERE SOME BROTHERS WAITING FOR US LIKE ANGELS when we arrived & helped us with all the luggage (big tent, 2 big suitcases, 8 handbags & a guitar). We told the customs officials that we were going to travel & camp all around S. America. They then commented: "Funny, there was a group of two couples & kids that arrived two months ago with just the same kind of gear and purpose!" Ha! Well, after going lightly all through our luggage they let us pass. TTL!

EVEN THOUGH WE HAD A LOT OF LUGGAGE & EVERYTHING, we want to mention that we tried all we could to set a good sample with nice clothes & suitcases. Also, it is a sign of wealth here in S.A. to have a tent (the bigger, the better), only they don't imagine that it is our Home all year around!

WE GOT TOGETHER HERE AS A TEAM WITH ANOTHER COUPLE, Josué & Marie, who helped us a lot with establishing ourselves until we knew how to get around. Meanwhile, the Lord gave us a Volkswagen van for a very inexpensive price, & in one month's time with the help of a brother we got it transformed into a camper where we now live. We've been travelling around quite a lot since then.

WE WENT TO SEE ABOUT MY



Not the Garden of Eden, but almost!—And Sara even ate the coconut hanging in the background!

PERMANENT VISA which I had received 4 years ago while here in the System. It looked like I was going to have to start all over again toward getting a new visa, because this one had expired according to the laws here. But the Lord touched the hearts of those hard men & women that usually work in the immigration offices, & by a miracle of the Lord they gave me another permanent visa!

AN INTERNATIONAL DRIVER'S LICENSE IS IMPORTANT HERE, because the police will often try to make things hard for you when you are stopped; they often just want a tip! The best protection is to really pray without ceasing & be as polite as you can, & if you get a check you can witness to them. Also the kids are a tremendous help in breaking the ice & easing things. TTL for this way of

life! It can be a thrilling adventure!

LITNESSING & WITNESSING ARE REALLY GOOD & FREE FOR US. We sometimes feel like we are in Portugal—there are lots of Portuguese who came a long time ago & have their businesses here, usually bread shops & restaurants, & they are often happy to meet another person from Portugal & hear news of their native land. It is nice to receive help from them, & when we go out litnessing we can be sure to have our lunch guaranteed. TYU!

CAMPING HERE CAN ONLY BE DONE OUTSIDE THE CITIES. The closest you can find a campsite to the centre of this city is 25 km. away. It is a municipal campground where you can stay for periods of ten days for free & then you have to stay somewhere else for one month.

THE FAMILY IS VERY WELCOME HERE, but if you try to set a good sample they will eventually let you stay longer. You can check in for 10 days & afterward check in again for another 10 on your wife's name. In other campgrounds the prices vary a lot. It is usually cheaper if you agree to pay by the month. If you can find the owner you can usually also provision a discount, & some brethren have even been able to provision camps for free for long periods of time.

IT IS REALLY GOOD TO BE HERE IN BRASIL. It is a challenge & a blessing at the same time. It's all by faith & we don't know what is going to happen tomorrow, but we trust the Lord! We love you all & this beautiful way of life! TYU!